

**To:** Li, Corine[Li.Corine@epa.gov]  
**From:** Bahrman, Sarah  
**Sent:** Sun 8/9/2015 9:35:51 PM  
**Subject:** FW: UTAH EMAIL LIST: Communication regarding San Juan River mine water pulse

Hi Corine –

Below is the info from BLM. I left Don a message to get more info and am waiting for a call back.

I also spoke with Tammy Gallegos and Kelly Pearson at San Juan County (UT) Emergency Management. They reported that both Aneth and Montezuma Creek are without water. The county is currently providing an alternate supply of water now. They are trying to plan for the coming week and want to know how long the communities will need to keep their intakes closed. School starts in these communities on Wed, so that is something they are trying to plan for as well. Tammy's cell is Personal Phone/Ex. 6 I'll coordinate with our EOC to see if we have any estimate of time for them based on metals sampling results to date.

Thanks,

Sarah

Sarah E. Bahrman | Acting Director, Water Program | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 8

(p) 303.312.6243 | (c) 303.903.8515 | (f) 877.876.9101

**From:** Donald Hoffheins [mailto:dhoffhei@blm.gov]  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 09, 2015 2:59 PM  
**To:** Bahrman, Sarah  
**Cc:** Macauley; Erica Gaddis; Walter Baker; llamb@utah.gov; Kim Shelley; Doug Wong; David Ariotti; Craig Dietrich; Ken Bousfield; Kim Dyches; Rachael Cassady; rmeyer@sanjuancounty.org; Sam LeFevre; Daniel Fleming; Ransel Beth; Hornsby Britt; William Stoner; Brandt Hart  
**Subject:** Re: UTAH EMAIL LIST: Communication regarding San Juan River mine water pulse

Yes Sarah, numerous communities have had to shut down pumping from the San Juan River,

Aneth, Montezuma Creek and Halchita. San Juan County has moved a water truck to the Fire station and local residents are bringing water jugs to be filled. Each family can get 25 gallons of drinking water per day. They also can get water hauled in from Bluff for their livestock.

Sent from Don Hoffheins' iPhone

Personal Phone/Ex. 6

On Aug 9, 2015, at 1:25 PM, Bahrman, Sarah <[Bahrman.Sarah@epa.gov](mailto:Bahrman.Sarah@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hi all –

We just got a report that two communities in UT are without water. Can anyone confirm that and provide more detail?

Thanks

Sarah E. Bahrman | Acting Director, Water Program | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 8

(p) 303.312.6243 | (c) 303.903.8515 | (f) 877.876.9101

**From:** Donald Hoffheins [<mailto:dhoffhei@blm.gov>]

**Sent:** Sunday, August 09, 2015 12:52 PM

**To:** Bahrman, Sarah

**Cc:** Macauley; Erica Gaddis; Walter Baker; [llamb@utah.gov](mailto:llamb@utah.gov); Kim Shelley; Doug Wong; David Ariotti; Craig Dietrich; Ken Bousfield; Kim Dyches; Rachael Cassady; [rmeyer@sanjuancounty.org](mailto:rmeyer@sanjuancounty.org); Sam LeFevre; Daniel Fleming; Ransel Beth; Hornsby Britt; William Stoner; Brandt Hart

**Subject:** Re: UTAH EMAIL LIST: Communication regarding San Juan River mine water pulse

I met with Commissioner Benally in Montezuma Creek and she said that she hired a contractor to take water samples. The following is all unofficial until the company issues a press release. When they started sampling above Aneth the arsenic level was 0.01. Latest readings are 30. ...

Sent from Don Hoffheins' iPhone

Personal Phone/Ex. 6

On Aug 9, 2015, at 12:00 PM, Bahrman, Sarah <[Bahrman.Sarah@epa.gov](mailto:Bahrman.Sarah@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hi Ying Ying and Don –

Thanks for sharing the info you have from the field. Our EPA Region 9 office has been working with the Navajo systems. I will pass this info on to them and let you know any info I hear back on the status of the Halchita system. As for the leading edge, the EPA airplane was up this morning and could not identify a leading edge of the plume. They will do another flyover this afternoon.

-Sarah

Sarah E. Bahrman | Acting Director, Water Program | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 8

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**From:** Donald Hoffheins [<mailto:dhoffhei@blm.gov>]

**Sent:** Sunday, August 09, 2015 11:29 AM

**To:** Macauley

**Cc:** Erica Gaddis; Walter Baker; [llamb@utah.gov](mailto:llamb@utah.gov); Kim Shelley; Doug Wong; David Ariotti; Craig Dietrich; Ken Bousfield; Kim Dyches; Rachael Cassady; [rmeyer@sanjuancounty.org](mailto:rmeyer@sanjuancounty.org); Bahrman, Sarah; Sam LeFevre; Daniel Fleming

**Subject:** Re: UTAH EMAIL LIST: Communication regarding San Juan River mine water pulse

Good morning all, yesterday I offered a water trailer beginning Monday if needed for the communities along the San Juan river. This morning I received a call from commissioner Benally accepting that. She says that the town of Hachita is having water line issues so they are actually limited on water anyway, so they will need assistance as soon as we can get it to them. I'm driving to the state line and Montezuma creek now because we have unconfirmed reports that the spill waste has traveled that far. I will check in later.

Sent from Don Hoffheins' iPhone

Personal Phone/Ex. 6

On Aug 9, 2015, at 11:13 AM, Macauley <[ymacauley@utah.gov](mailto:ymacauley@utah.gov)> wrote:

Some updates from Mexican Hat in Utah -

Just finished talking to Danny Fleming, the water master of Mexican Hat water system. He saw the Fox News 13 reporting about Aneth and Montezuma Ck shutting down their DW systems. Danny is wondering about the status the Halchita water system on Navajo Nation land directly across the river from Mexican Hat. Halchita has a surface water intake directly from the San Juan River. Danny anticipates to provide water hauling assistance to Halchita residents if requested. (Is EPA working with Halchita water system? Does anyone know what Halchita will do or is doing with its DW intake from the river?)

Danny thinks Mexican Hat's wells may be okay since they have several hundred feet of ground filtration between San Juan river and the wells, plus the well water goes through a membrane treatment plant before entering the distribution system.

Danny has been talking to Doug Wong of DWQ on coordinating the sampling. Danny has his own Hach kit and can do some monitoring. Danny plans to monitor the metals of the wells. I recommended that, in addition to monitoring metals, Danny also continue to monitor and compare the pH and conductivity of the wells and the nearby river water, especially comparing to the historical well data.

P.S. It may be a good idea to add Danny Fleming ([danielf2368@yahoo.com](mailto:danielf2368@yahoo.com)) to the Utah email list.

Ying-Ying

On Aug 7, 2015, at 2:00 PM, Erica Gaddis <[egaddis@utah.gov](mailto:egaddis@utah.gov)> wrote:

This email is just to establish the list of people that should be included in any further communication about the San Juan River mine water pulse. The list includes representatives from the Division of Water Quality, Division of

Drinking Water, DEQ's District Engineer, Utah Department of Health, San Juan County Health Department, and BLM. If there are additional contacts that need to be included, please add them and resend this email.

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**Erica Brown Gaddis, Ph.D.**  
Assistant Director

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